

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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44

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /136 W  
----- 023127

R 061150Z JUL 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 963

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5286

PASS TREASURY FOR ALBRECHT

PASS STR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: GATT, ETRD

SUBJECT: GATT PANELS ON DISC AND RELATED TAX PROBLEMS

REF: GENEVA 5263

MISSION HAS RECEIVED FOLLOWING LETTER, DATED 2 JULY 1976,  
FROM MR. L. J. MARIADASON, CHAIRMAN OF GATT PANELS ON DISC AND  
TAX PRACTICES OF FRANCE, BELGIUM NETHERLANDS:

"WHEN THE PANELS ON DISC AND INCOME TAX PRACTICES IN  
FRANCE, BELGIUM AND THE NETHERLANDS MET WITH THE PARTIES  
ON 29 JUNE, I RAISED THE QUESTION OF CONFIDENTIAL TREAT-  
MENT OF DOCUMENTS WITH THE PARTIES TO ALL FOUR DISPUTES.  
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YOU WILL RECALL MY STATEMENT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE

MEETING THAT THE PANEL CONSIDERED THE QUESTION OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROCEEDING AS A MATTER OF SOME IMPORTANCE. IN THE PAST THE GENERAL RULE HAS BEEN THAT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PANEL ARE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL WHILE A MATTER IS UNDER CONSIDERATION. TO CONDUCT THE DEBATE IN PUBLIC WOULD MAKE THE PANEL'S JOB MUCH MORE DIFFICULT AND MIGHT MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE. I ALSO RECALLED THE GENERAL PRINCIPLE REGARDING CONFIDENTIALITY AND STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE THAT THE PANELS ATTACH TO THIS. I URGED THE PARTIES TO REQUEST THE PANEL'S PERMISSION BEFORE DECIDING TO RELEASE PAPERS OF THIS CONFIDENTIAL NATURE.

"I WOULD THEREFOR ASK YOU TO CONVEY TO YOUR AUTHORITIES MY RETIERATION THAT DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THE WORK OF THE PANELS NOT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.

"I MIGHT MENTION THAT THE DOCUMENTS THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE AVAILABLE FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, FRANCE, BELGIUM AND THE NETHERLANDS SHOULD BE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL AS WELL." DALE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMMITTEES, TRADE COMPLAINTS, INCOME TAXES, INFORMATION CONTROL, CLASSIFIED INFORMATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** ETRD, FR, BE, NL, US, GATT, (MARIADASON, L J)  
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